

REMARKS

A Final Office Action was mailed on April 20, 2005. Claims 1, 2, and 4 are currently pending in the application.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,735,311 to Rump et al.

Rump et al. disclose a technique for ciphering multimedia data, transmitting the ciphered data over telecommunication networks, and deciphering the transmitted data (please see col. 1, lines 13-37). In accordance with the disclosed technique, a multimedia protection file (MMP) includes a definition data block (or header) that includes information relating to how the MMP is to be ciphered (see, e.g., column 5, lines 6 – 23 of Rump). Thus, decrypting information is provided with the multimedia data.

In contrast, Applicant claims a technique of encrypting data on a recording medium where the decrypting information is not provided with the data, but rather with a program for controlling the reproduction of the data. Thus, the security of the decrypting information is improved over methods in which such information is recorded together with the data to be reproduced.

Furthermore, as described above, the decrypting information in Rump et al., which is provided with transmitted data, identifies “a particular deciphering device with which the ciphered multimedia data can be deciphered beyond a specified period of time; selecting the definition data ciphering algorithm...” Rump et al., therefore, do not disclose “a recording medium...having at least digital sound data and a program for controlling the reproduction of the digital sound data separately recorded therein...”

Similarly, Rump et al. do not disclose "a recording medium...comprising: an area where encrypted digital sound data is recorded; and an area where a program for controlling operation of the information processor is recorded."

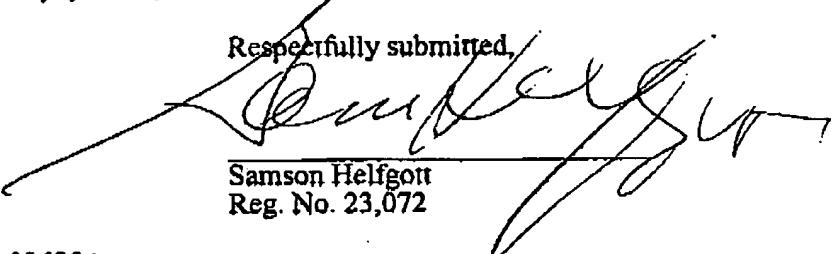
Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1 and 2 are not anticipated by Rump et al. Accordingly, Applicant submits that independent claims 1 and 2 are allowable. As claim 4 depends from allowable claim 2, Applicant further submits that claim 4 is also allowable for at least this reason.

CONCLUSION

An earnest effort has been made to be fully responsive to the Examiner's objections. In view of the above remarks, it is believed that claims 1, 2 and 4, including independent claims 1 and 2, are in condition for allowance. Passage of this case to allowance is earnestly solicited. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, he is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,


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